



BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE  
GOVERNOR

## EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 29

### ESTABLISHING THE NORTH CAROLINA INNOVATION COUNCIL

**WHEREAS**, amidst increasing economic competition from other states and countries, North Carolina must aggressively pursue and leverage innovation, the creation of new ideas and the translation of those new ideas into products, processes and services with economic value, as a means to grow and diversify its economy through the 21st century; and

**WHEREAS**, in the transition to a knowledge and innovation economy, the State has responded by making strategic investments in infrastructure, institutions, and human capital; however, the constantly and rapidly evolving nature of our technology industries requires new perspectives and approaches to stimulate technological innovation advancement in the State of North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina has the intellectual capital and facilities to foster research and innovation, yet, the State must establish an institutional and policy framework that maximizes the potential of its assets to accelerate the progression and transformation of innovative ideas into economic development and prosperity; and

**WHEREAS**, given the broad scope and interdependence of innovation-related activities such as targeted research investments, commercialization efforts, entrepreneurship services, risk capital development, and the development of new, high-growth industry segments, sustained and coordinated statewide leadership across various sectors is needed to strategically advance North Carolina's innovation agenda; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of Science and Technology of the North Carolina Department of Commerce's Advancing Innovation in North Carolina report in December 2008 calls for coordinated leadership for a well-functioning innovation framework.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of North Carolina, **IT IS ORDERED:**

## **Section 1. Establishment**

The North Carolina Innovation Council (hereafter the “Council”) is hereby established. The Council members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Council shall be comprised of no fewer than 26 and no more than 35 members appointed by the Governor, as follows:

- a. The Governor or designee;
- b. Two Representatives from the State Senate;
- c. Two Representatives from the State House of Representatives;
- d. The Secretary of Commerce or designee;
- e. The State Treasurer or designee;
- f. Three representatives from the North Carolina Board of Science and Technology;
- g. Three representatives from the North Carolina Economic Development Board
- h. One representative from higher education;
- i. One representative from K-12 education;
- j. One representative from local government;
- k. Two representatives from high-tech, innovative businesses;
- l. Two representatives from the venture capital, financing or intellectual property community;
- m. Two representatives from non-profit and/or trade organizations interested in innovation and economic development; and
- n. Any other member(s) as the Governor deems appropriate.

## **Section 2. Officers**

The Governor shall appoint a Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-Chairs of the Council as she or he deems appropriate.

## **Section 3. Duties and Responsibilities**

The duties and responsibilities of the Council shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a. Provide the Governor with advice, counsel and recommendations regarding the following matters:
  - (1) Aligning investments in public and private innovation programs strategically;
  - (2) Facilitating access to bridge funding and technical assistance that move high-potential product concepts into the commercial marketplace faster;
  - (3) Eliminating redundancy in programming to reduce unnecessary overhead and optimize the funds invested in outcome-driven research and commercialization;
  - (4) Making strategic investments and policies to build world-class research and development enterprises, aid the development of a scalable collaborative communications network infrastructure, encourage and foster collaboration among academia and industry, commercialize innovative products and practices, and cultivate human capital in North Carolina;
  - (5) Identifying gaps in North Carolina’s technology portfolio;

- (6) Measuring outcomes to align performance of the programs;
  - (7) Facilitating access to information and resources on the State's innovation agenda;
  - (8) Encouraging state agencies to communicate and collaborate with one another to unify the state around a strategic innovation and competitiveness agenda; and
  - (9) Facilitating collaboration among state, local, private, and federal agencies on a shared innovation agenda.
- b. Champion the importance of innovation, as well as coordinate promotion and communication of the State's successes to its citizens and other audiences;
  - c. Convene cross-functional groups of policy, academic, and business leaders to elicit information and strategic policy initiatives that accelerate the progression of innovative ideas to economic development and social prosperity;
  - d. Assist in devising methods to identify, promote, and recruit potential enterprises and individuals to bring to North Carolina to augment innovation clusters and economic growth throughout the state;
  - e. Develop ideas and recommendations on policies to cultivate and retain innovative researchers, entrepreneurs, and enterprises within the state – in the public, private and nonprofit sectors and throughout the state; and
  - f. Develop criteria to measure performance relative to strategic goals and, where the state has invested heavily in innovation policies, improve coordination of those policies to optimize the benefits the state receives from its investments.

#### **Section 4. Meetings**

The Council shall meet at regularly scheduled quarterly meetings, and at the call of the Chairs or the Governor.

#### **Section 5. Council Administration and Expenses**

- a. Council members shall not receive compensation or a per diem for serving on the Council.
- b. Support staff, facilities, and resources for the Council shall be provided by the Governor's Policy Office, the Office of Science and Technology, and the Treasurer's Office.
- c. All departments, commissions, boards, offices, entities, agencies, and officers of the State of North Carolina, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate with the Council in implementing the provisions of this Order.

**Section 6. Implementation and Duration**

This Executive Order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until November 16, 2013, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 147-16.2, or until rescinded.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto signed my name and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in the City of Raleigh, this sixteenth day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand and nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fourth.



Beverly Eaves Perdue  
Governor

**ATTEST:**

Elaine F. Marshall  
Secretary of State